

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Beach Park Ammonia Spill - Removal Polrep
Initial and Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial and Final
Beach Park Ammonia Spill
C5NZ
Beach Park, IL

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From: Thomas Mendez OSC

Date: 4/29/2019

Reporting Period: 4/25/2019-4/29/2019

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C5NZ	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	PRP	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	4/25/2019	Start Date:	4/25/2019
Demob Date:	4/27/2019	Completion Date:	4/29/2019
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency

1.1.2 Site Description

On 4/25/19 two 2-ton tanks of anhydrous ammonia being pulled by a tracker spilled their content to the road and subsequent soil in Beach Park IL. Fire and EMS transported injured from the scene as a water curtain was sprayed on the tankers.

1.1.2.1 Location

Beach Park, Illinois - Green Bay Rd and Clarendon Rd

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Anhydrous Ammonia in liquid form. Toxic if inhaled, ingested or adsorbed through skin. Elevated pH. Will readily convert to gaseous state resulting in toxic fumes. Additionally, high affinity to adhere to soil.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

Elevated levels found in surrounding air and inside homes. After initial threat was mitigated, ventilation of homes and monitoring of area while soil was excavated.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

4/25/19

EPA arrived on scene and met with the unified command primarily consisting of Fire and EM. After unified command gave the all clear to proceed, EPA began air monitoring at the location of the spill. EPA

monitored both the air at the spill site as well as inside available homes. Elevated levels were witnessed about background inside homes. EPA met and discussed with Lake County the sampling of nearby wells that could have been impacted from the spill.

4/26/19

EPA continued to monitor air quality both externally and inside homes. Levels were scene dropping below 5 ppm in all locations inside homes. Additionally levels dropped below 2 ppm in all locations inside homes on the ground level. A PRP contracted SET environmental to excavate soil. EPA provided technical assistance while excavation activities were completed. EPA found only slight levels of ammonia in the breathing zone (less than 2 ppm) at the spill site once clean fill was used to cover the excavation.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

Joseph Kevek (Owner/Operator) and Warner Reck (Transporter) were identified as PRPs

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>
Ammonia	Soil	60 yd^3			

2.2 Planning Section

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$4,000.00	80.00%
TAT/START	\$15,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$9,500.00	63.33%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$20,000.00	\$6,500.00	\$13,500.00	67.50%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

OSC Thomas Mendez

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Area Fire and EMS

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Lake County Public Health, IEPA, NTSB, PHMSA

4. Personnel On Site

2 EPA OSC

1 ERRS - ER

3 START - TetraTech

1 IDEM

1 ATSDR

5. Definition of Terms

ERRS: Emergency Rapid Response Services

IDEM: Indiana Department of Environmental Management

NRC: National Response Center

NTSB: Nation Transportation and Safety Board

OSC: On-Scene Coordinator

PHMSA: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

POLREP: Pollution Report
START: Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team contractor
USEPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency

6. Additional sources of information

7. Situational Reference Materials

None

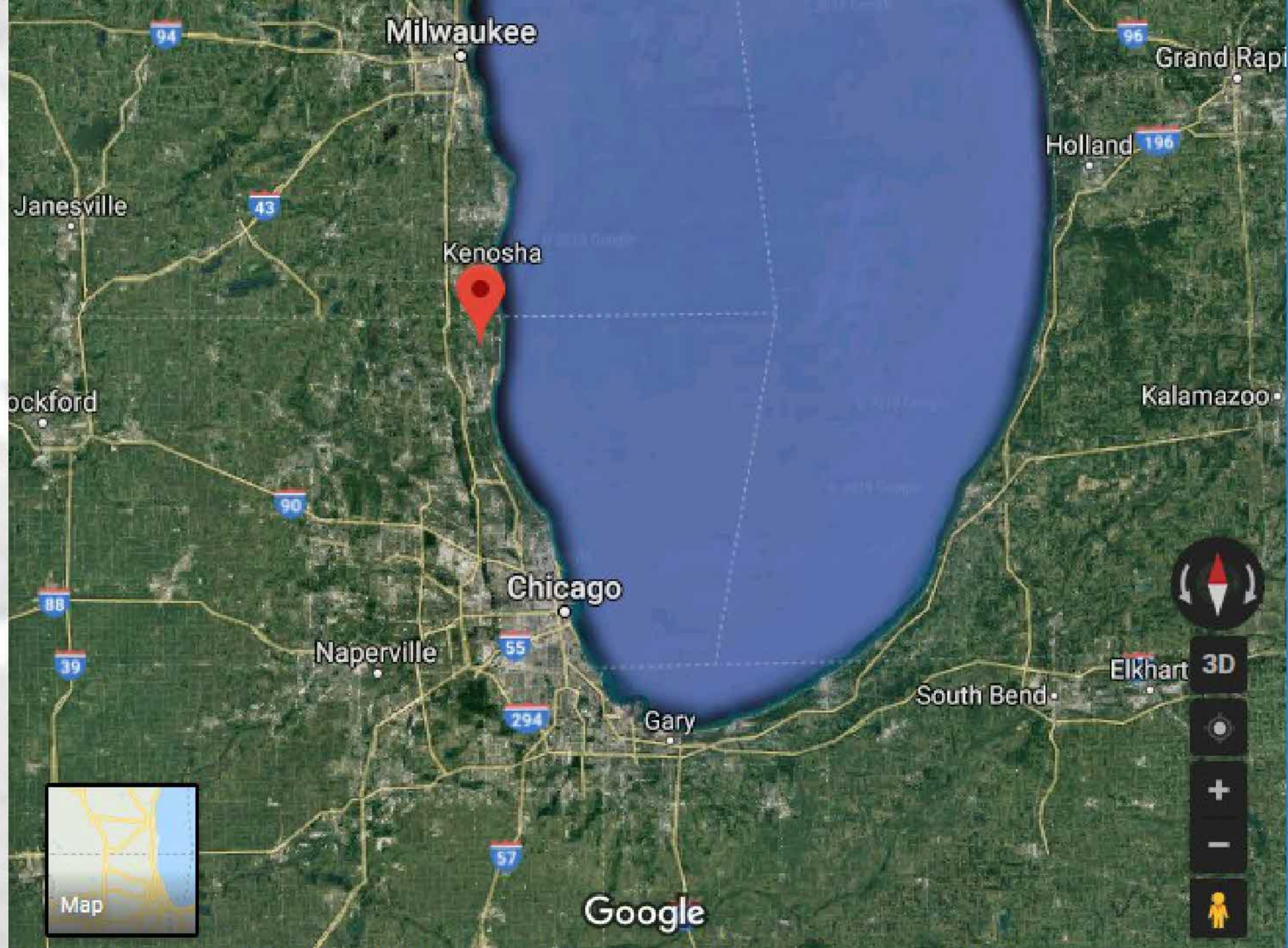
Beach Park Ammonia Spill

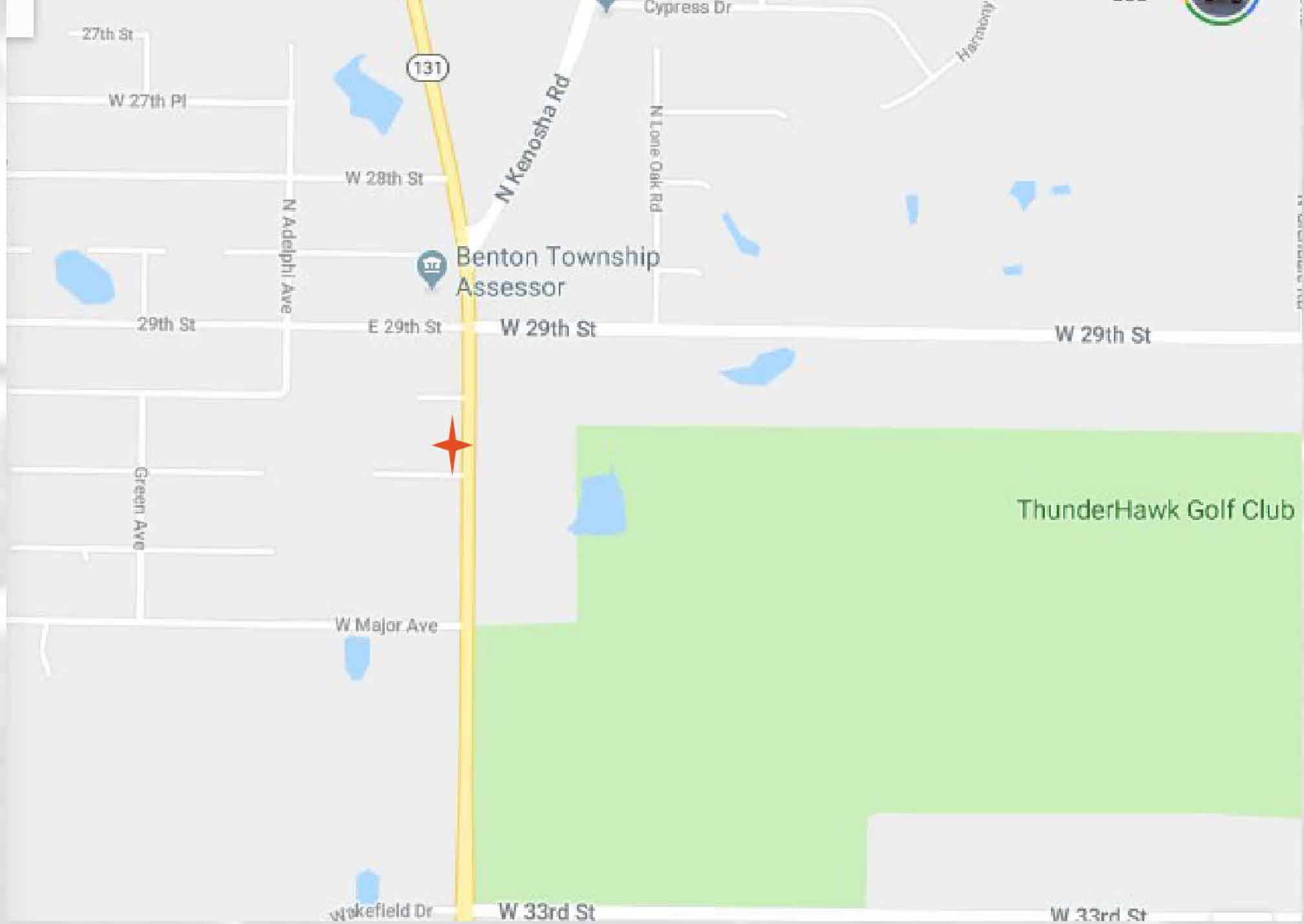
Thomas Mendez (OSC)



Anhydrous Ammonia

Common uses: -Antimicrobial
-Refrigeration -Green
Energy (heat pump,
OTEC, LSWAC)
-Fuel -Fertilizer

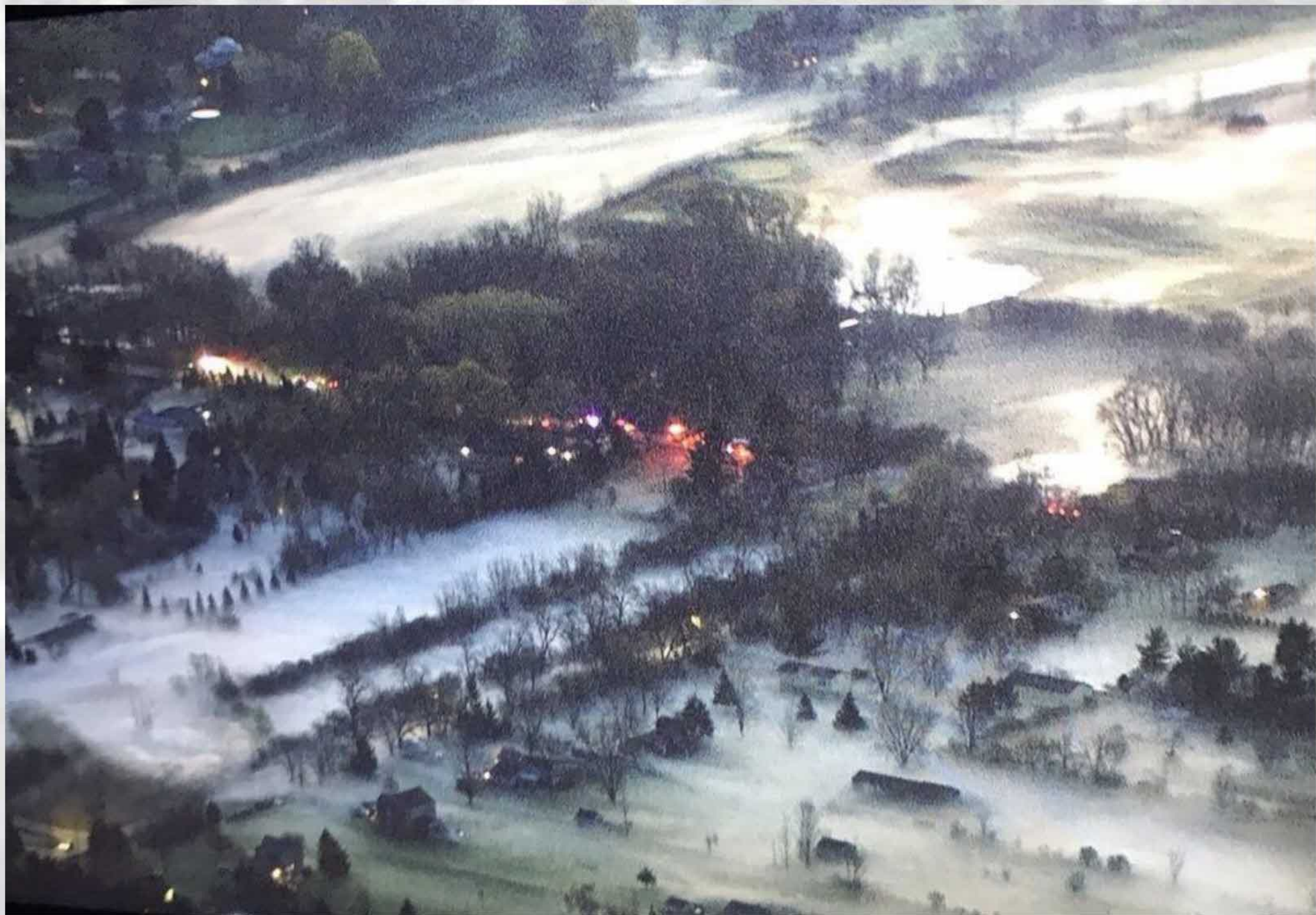




Anhydrous Ammonia

EPA on scene- 1st look

Quantity (2) of two ton tanks **HAZMAT on site** **-Fire departments**









Fire/EMS all clear

- Tanks removed off site
- NTSB, PHMSA on site
 - Everyone wants to look at tanks-
- Visible burn on ground
- Any broadleaf plants are now black -
- Trees are purple and black where fumes present



Air Monitoring Equipment

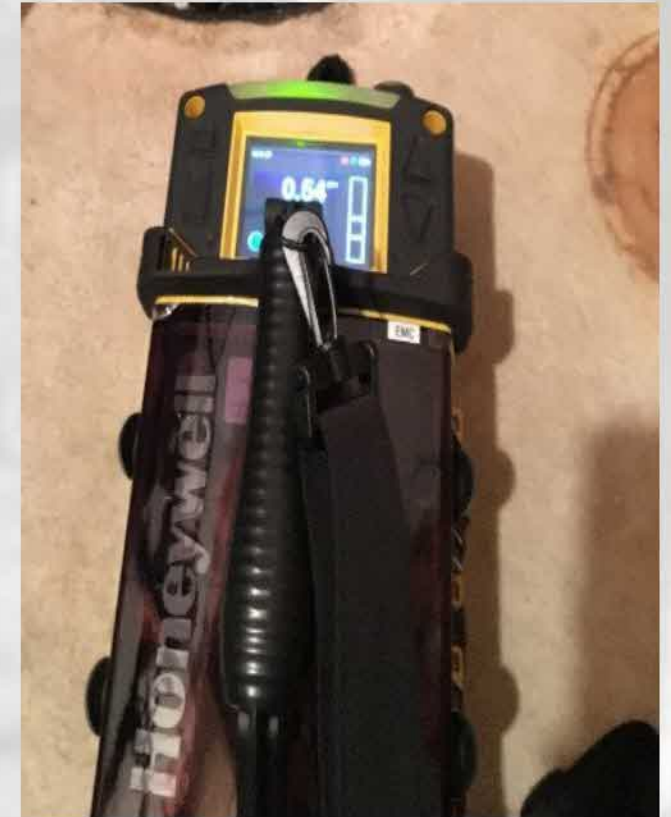
- Multi RAE Pro



- "Steel" RAE



- SPM Flex



Air Monitoring Equipment

- Multi RAE Pro
Flex -NH3 sensors
Tape

- "Steel" RAE
-NH3 sensors

- SPM
-

-Didn't work

-Sort of worked

-New favorite

Concerns

- Inhalation Already air monitoring Ingestion Inq

Additional Concerns

- New sources Sump pumps Wells “later in time”



Mitigating Concerns

- **InhalationContinue to monitor both inside/outside**

Mitigating Concerns



Mitigating Concerns



- **PRP Removes soil“scratch and sniff”Back fills with clean**

Clean Fill



Clean Fill



Lessons learned

- When it rains its pours
 - Multiple responses at once consume resources
- Good equipment is key-
- Communication is key-Your peers are your best resource